

REMARKS

Claims 33-37 and 39-44 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 21, 23-28 and 31-32 are canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 33 has been amended herein. No new matter has been added. Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested.

Applicants wish to make of record the personal interview conducted on March 12, 2004, between Examiner Easthom and the undersigned. During the interview, the Office Action of November 14, 2003, was thoroughly discussed.

Initially, applicants presented an amended claim 33 wherein the recitation that the claimed resistor included a bonding wire bonded to each bonding electrode. A tentative agreement with the examiner as to allowance of claim 33 was reached.

Further, in discussing the various features of the disclosed invention, the examiner indicated that a claim directed to the embodiment shown in Figure 1 might also be allowable. As best understood from the examiner, it was the combination of the "bent" configuration for the resistor in combination with the recessed metal strip 12 behind a "ear" or "projection" on the resistor body that might be patentable.

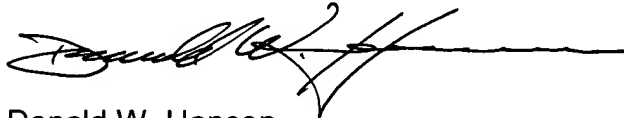
As to independent claim 1, the examiner was not convinced on the patentability of the claim over the Smejkal et al patent based on the feature of the insulating layer covering the entire surface of the resistor body. The examiner did, however, indicate that if the claim were amended to recite that the diffusion layer was formed by rolling that the claim might receive favorable consideration. The examiner further indicated that, if such an amendment to claim 1 were made, it would be necessary to demonstrate that the structure and/or properties of the diffusion layer differs in some significant fashion from a diffusion layer formed by other means such as thermal means. It is desired to thank the examiner for the courtesies extended during the interview.

As mentioned above, claim 33 has been amended herein to recite that the claimed resistor included a bonding wire bonded to each bonding electrode. Since it was indicated during the interview that such an amendment would place claim 33 in condition for allowance, it is submitted that claim 33 and claims 34-44 dependent thereon are now allowable.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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